

Modern Day Human Trafficking



We may think that human trafficking is only a present day phenomenon. The truth is that the term itself has evolved with a lot of forms, molded and integrated with a lot of methods and procedures and different measures.

International law has defined human trafficking as all forms of nonconsensual exploitation. In layman's terms, human trafficking is when an individual is forced or lured to any illegal act or labor regardless of the victim's involvement. The victims may have been forced to trafficking because of certain social issues such as economic vulnerability or physiological, emotional or mental problems that drive exploitative working arrangement. Consensual exploitation is mostly addresses through social and labor law and is sometimes settled before it came to a criminal offense. On the other hand, non-consensual exploitation is mainly addressed through criminal law.

Human trafficking comes in many forms. Sinclair James International Movement for Domestic Labor Reform, a non-profit organization campaigning against domestic violence to migrant workers have pointed out that more than 50% of human trafficking has been existing in domestic abuse cases.

There are a lot of pending complaints in Middle Eastern judiciary which reason that the migrant workers are being forced to serve not only their immediate employee but also their extended families. The tasks which are imposed to them not only cover household chores but often include sexual deeds. Since most Middle Eastern families are extended due to culture and tradition, the complainant does not stand a chance with national laws. Migrant works often find themselves exploited but cannot even rely on criminal laws for justice.

Human trafficking is also rampant in developing cities. The most notorious in many reviews are from developing cities like Manila, Philippines, Jakarta, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Vietnam. Most of the victims are lured from their homes in the provinces, offering an escape from poor living and being promised a better life only

to end up in night clubs and bars and sold to foreigners who would use them for a night or so.

Many organizations and international institutions have tried various approaches to stop this issue as it mostly affects the development of a nation. The World Bank could consider strengthening its efforts on nonconsensual exploitation, in particular in the area of access to justice for the poor and empowering vulnerable groups to demand justice and good governance. In addition, there is a need to enhance the knowledge on prevalence, causes, and consequences of nonconsensual exploitation. In doing so, the World Bank should seek partnerships to complement existing initiatives and expertise, but should also consider providing leadership in the fight against exploitation and human trafficking.

Source: <http://www.sinclairjames.org/modern-day-human-trafficking/>